

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 L-03 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05 AF-06 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /106 W
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P 221650Z OCT 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6425

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D/HA-CARLIN

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: AORG, ICEM

SUBJ: ICEM LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM

REF: STATE 248962

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM ICEM DIRECTOR JOHN F. THOMAS, IN REPLY TO REFTEL. QUOTE:

I HAVE BEEN INFORMED OF YOUR THINKING ON THE OPERATIONAL BUDGET DEFICITS. THE INFORMATION ON 1975 IS CONTAINED IN BUDGET DOCUMENT MC/1130 WHICH WAS RECENTLY DISPATCHED TO YOU THROUGH THE U.S. MISSION IN GENEVA. SECTION III SHOWS A PROJECTED DEFICIT OF \$181,000 AFTER TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE RECENT INCREASE IN THE VALUE OF THE U.S. DOLLAR. REIMBURSEMENTS FOR THE INDOCHINA PROGRAM AND OTHER FACTORS. WE HAVE APPEALED FOR ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBER GOVERNMENTS AS A RESULT OF THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCBG IN SEPT AND WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE FORTHCOMING. WE ALSO HOPE THAT ADDITIONAL MISCELLANEOUS INCOME MAY BE

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GENERATED BY THE END OF THE YEAR TO HELP BALANCE

SECTION III. IF NECESSARY, WE CAN DRAW ON THE
MIGRANT LOAN FUND BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT IS ANTICIPATED
THAT LESS THAN \$70,00 WILL BE AVAILABLE IN
THE ICEM ACCOUNT AT THE END OF THE YEAR. I
WILL BE GIVING AN UPDATED REPORT ON THE BUDGET FOR
1975 AT THE SCBF IN NOV AT WHICH TIME WE WILL
HAVE A GOOD VIEW OF THE REALITY OF OUR HOPES
EXPRESSED ABOVE.
HOWEVER, WHILE I UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION YOU
INHERITED, I AM MOST CONCERNED AND DISAPPOINTED
TO BE INFORMED OF THE US CONTRIBUTION OF
\$400,000 FOR OUR LATIN AMERICAN ACTIVITIES IN

1976. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE UNITED STATES DID
NOT OBJECT IN 1970 WORKING GROUP TO ACCEPTING
33.33 PERCENT OF THE MODEL SCHEDULE OF LUMP SUM
CONTRIBUTIONS FOR SECTION III WHICH INCLUDED
MIGRANTS AND SPONSORS, MISCELLANEOUS AND OTHER
INCOME. AT THE WORKING GROUP ON THE LATIN
AMERICAN PROGRAM IN GENEVA ON MAR 10-11, 1975,
IT WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE US DELEGATE THAT
THE US CONTRIBUTION WOULD BE IN THE REGION OF
25 PERCENT. FOR 1975 THIS WOULD HAVE AMOUNTED TO
SOME \$900,000 OF "TOTAL RESOURCES" WHICH INCLUDE
MIGRANTS AND SPONSORS, MISCELLANEOUS AND OTHER
INCOME OF \$1,554,320. THE US CONTRIBUTION OF
\$750,00 FOR 1975 ONLY REPRESENTS 21 PERCENT OF
TOTAL RESOURCES AND A \$400,000 CONTRIBUTION IN 1976
WOULD REPRESENT ONLY 11 PERCENT OF TOTAL RESOURCES
FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAM. I WOULD LIKE YOU
TO CLARIFY THE 25 PERCENT US CONTRIBUTION FOR
FUTURE USE, SINCE YOU APPEAR TO USE ONLY GOVERNMENT
CONTRIBUTIONS AS A BASE, WHEREAS THERE IS SOME
\$1,500,000 OF OTHER INCOME FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN
PROGRAM. EVEN THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE
THE INDIRECT INCOME FROM GOVERNMENTS IN THE FORM
OF SERVICES AS PROVIDED BY THE ICEM CONSTITUTION.
I AM EXTREMELY CONCERNED THAT THE US
CONTRIBUTION OF \$400,000 FOR LATIN AMERICAN
ACTIVITIES IN 1976 WILL CAUSE A DRASTIC REDUCTION
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IN OUR PROGRAMS AND THE CLOSING OF OFFICES IN OUR
LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES. I SEE NO OTHER CHOICE.
THIS COULD LEAD TO REASSESSMENT OF ICEM BY
CERTAIN LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES WHICH MAY RESULT
IN THE WITHDRAWAL OF CERTAIN MEMBER GOVERNMENTS
AND WOULD AFFECT OUR ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET SCALE
OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FUTURE YEARS. ALSO THE
U.S. REDUCTION IN ITS CONTRIBUTION MAY LEAD TO

OTHER EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS REDUCING THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS
WHICH WILL ONLY COMPOUND OUR PROBLEMS TO THE POINT
WHERE ICEM MAY NOT BE ABLE TO EXIST.

IN ADDITION, ANY REDUCTION IN OUR OPERATIONAL
STAFF AT THIS TIME CAN ONLY SEVERELY AFFECT OUR
CHILE, CYPRUS, INDOCHINA AND POTENTIAL PORTUGUESE
PROGRAMS AS WE WILL NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT STAFF TO
TO CARRY OUT THESE PROGRAMS.

THE LATIN AMERICAN DELS IN GENEVA, ON
AUTHORIZATION OF HOME CAPITALS, HAVE SIGNED A
POSITION PAPER STRONGLY SUPPORTING THE ICEM
LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAMS. THIS PAPER IS BEING
DISTRIBUTED TO ALL MEMBER COUNTRIES AND I WOULD
STRONGLY URGE YOUR OFFICE TO CALL THIS TO THE
ATTENTION OF A HIGHER LEVEL, SINCE IT REFLECTS THE
THINKING OF MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND DESERVES PRIORITY
CONSIDERATION BY US AUTHORITIES CONCERNED
WITH US RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES.
FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO MENTION THAT PAST
YEARS DECINE IN THE VALUE OF THE US DOLLAR
HAS CAUSED US TO INCREASE THE US DOLLAR
REQUIREMENTS OF OUR ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET AND THUS,
MEMBER GOVERNMENTS HAVE HAD TO ALLOCATE LESS FUNDS
TO OUR OPERATIONAL BUDGET THAN ANTICIPATED.
ALTHOUGH WE HAD PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED SUPPLEMENTAL
FUNDS FROM US GOVERNMENT FOR THE LOSS IN THE
VALUE OF THE US DOLLAR AND THE US CONGRESS
PROVIDED OVERALL FUNDS FOR THIS PROGRAM, THE US
CONTRIBUTION TO ICEM WAS REDUCED.

I HOPE THE ABOVE COMMENTS MEET YOUR NEEDS. I
SINCERELY BELIEVE THE COUNCIL IN NOV AND THE
YEAR 1976 WILL BE THE MOST IMPORTANT IN ICEM'S
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HISTORY AND FUTURE OF THE ORGANIZATION.

BEST REGARDS. THOMAS. UNQUOTE.

2. NOTE: BUDGET DOCUMENTS FOR 1976 AND 1976
WILL BE AIRMAILED TOMORROW. ABRAMS

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